



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/578,769

01/29/2007

Ken Takei

NITT.0327

6221

38327

7590

11/13/2008

REED SMITH LLP

3110 FAIRVIEW PARK DRIVE, SUITE 1400

FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042

EXAMINER

DUONG, DIEU HIEN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/13/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/578,769	Applicant(s) TAKEI ET AL.	
	Examiner DIEU HIEN T. DUONG	Art Unit 2821	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-8,12,13 and 17-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2,6-8,12-13,17-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is a response to applicant's filed 06/26/2008. In virtue of this amendment, claims 3-5, 9-11 and 14-16 are canceled; claims 18-22 are newly added; thus, claims 1-2, 6-8, 12-13 and 17-22 are currently in the instant application.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 18 and 22 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 18:

Line 12, "third transmission" should be changed to - -first transmission- -;

Lines 13-14, "second branching" should be changed to - -first branching- -;

Line 14, "fourth transmission" should be changed to - -second
transmission- -;

Line 14, "second branching" should be changed to - -first branching- -;

Line 15, "third branching" should be changed to - -second branching- -;

Line 15, "firth transmission" should be changed to - -third transmission- -;

Lines 15-16, "third branching" should be changed to - -second branching- -

;

Claim 22:

Line 13 "third transmission" should be changed to - -first transmission- -;

Lines 14-15, "second branching" should be changed to - -first branching- -;

Line 15, "fourth transmission" should be changed to - -second
transmission- -;

Line 16, "third branching" should be changed to - -second branching- -;

Line 16, "firth transmission" should be changed to - -third transmission- -;

Lines 16-17, "third branching" should be changed to - -second branching- -

;

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2, 6-8, 12-13 and 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taflove et al (US 6,292,144 B1), hereinafter "Taflove".

Regarding claims 1, 7, 17-18 and 22, Taflove discloses, in Figures 1-5 and col. 6, lines 23-28, a portable wireless terminal comprising an antenna incorporated therein, the antenna comprising

a ground conductor (18, Fig. 2) having a ground potential;

a single feeding point (16, Fig, 2) whose one end is formed by a part of the ground conductor; and

a plurality of transmission lines (12) to which RF power supplied to the feeding point is input, for radiating electromagnetic waves of a plurality of frequencies into space,

wherein the plurality of transmission lines include a transmission line for radiating electromagnetic waves of the plurality of frequencies commonly into space,

Art Unit: 2821

wherein, when the plurality of frequencies are composed of n frequencies of first, second, third and fourth to n -th frequencies, where n is a positive integer of three or more, the plurality of transmission lines include a first transmission line (14) whose one end is connected to the feeding point (16) and whose other end is connected to a first branching point, a second transmission line connected between the first branching point and a second branching point, and a third transmission line connected to the second branching point,

wherein respective lengths of the plurality of transmission lines are set so that impedance matching is performed at the feeding point with respect to the plurality of frequencies (col. 3, lines 23-28).

Taflove does not disclose wherein the total length of the plurality of transmission lines is shorter than the sum of a quarter wavelength of an electromagnetic wave of the first frequency and half wavelengths of electromagnetic waves of the second, third and fourth to n -th frequencies, the second, third and fourth to n -th frequencies being higher than the first frequency.

However, such difference is not patentable merits since it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to determine the electrical length of the transmission lines to obtain desired frequency bands based on particular application or environment of use.

Therefore, to employ having the total length of the transmission lines as claimed would have been obvious to person skill in the art of antenna.

Regarding claims 2, 8 and 19, Taflove discloses, in Figures 1-5 and col. 6, lines 23-28, wherein the ground conductor (18), the feeding point (16) and the plurality of transmission lines (12) are formed of an integrated metal plate.

Regarding claims 6, 12 and 20, Taflove discloses, in Figures 1-5 and col. 6, lines 23-28, wherein the ground conductor (18) is located on one side of one of the plurality of transmission lines (12).

Regarding claims 13 and 21, Taflove discloses, in Figures 1-5, further comprising a transmission line for impedance adjustment connected to at least one of the feeding point and the branching point.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 6-8, 12-13 and 17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

Art Unit: 2821

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Inquiry

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DIEU HIEN T. DUONG whose telephone number is (571)272-8980. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, from 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Owens can be reached on 571-272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/578,769

Page 7

Art Unit: 2821

11/08/2008

DD

AU 2821

/Trinh Vo Dinh/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2821